Message Text

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51

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 OMB-01 SAB-01 SAM-01 IO-10

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

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FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4538

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

USINT BAGHDAD

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR EG UR LY FR

SUBJECT: MUBARAK STATEMENTS IN PARIS

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. ALL THREE ARABIC LANGUAGE PAPERS JUNE 12 GIVE SECOND LEAD PROMINENCE TO STATEMENTS MADE IN PARIS JUNE 11 BY VISITING VP MUBARAK. IN AN INTERVIEW WITH LE MONDE AND IN PRE-DEPARTURE PRESS CONFERENCE, MUBARAK SAID EGYPT "IS NOT SURE ABOUT THE POSSIBILITIES OF REACHING AN EARLY AGREEMENT" ON ME PEACE, AND LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ADDED THAT, ALTHOUGH EGYPT DID NOT WISH TO MINIMIZE ISRAEL'S

DECISION TO THIN-OUT ITS SINAI FORCES, "ISRAEL'S STAND HAS NOT CHANGED". MUBARAK SAID HE, THEREFORE, DOES NOT EXPECT FORD/RABIN TALKS TO LEAD TO SOMETHING OF "MUCH VALUE"; EGYPT IS, OF COURSE, INTERESTED IN UPCOMING ANNOUNCEMENT OF US REASSESSMENT.

- 2. MUBARAK COMMENTED THAT REPORTS FROM TEL AVIV AND WASHINGTON INDICATING THAT A PHASED AGREEMENT BETWEEN EGYPT AND ISRAEL IS IMMINENT IS "DEVOID OF TRUTH AND IS AIMED AT POISONING THE ATMOSPHERE". AHRAM ADDED THAT THESE REPORTS ARE "MEANT TO HAVE A DRUGGING EFFECT". MUBARAK COMMENTED FURTHER THAT SADAT IS "NOT ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT NEW STEP-BY-STEP DIPLOMACY" AND BELIEVES THAT KISSINGER'S EFFORTS SHOULD BE PART OF AN INTERNATIONAL PROCESS LEADING TO AN OVERALL SETTLEMENT. MUBARAK STATED THAT EGYPT " IS NOT OPTIMISTIC BECAUSE RABIN GOVERNMENT IS NOT CAPABLE OF TAKING COURAGEOUS DECISIONS" TOWARD PEACE.
- 3. ON ARMS PURCHASES, MUBARAK SAID THAT EGYPT IS CONDUCTING NEGOTIATIONS WITH BRITAIN, BUT WILL GIVE PREFERENCE TO FRANCE WHERE COOPERATION IN THE ARMS INDUSTRY IS CONCERNED. HE NOTED THAT HIS PARIS TALKS CONCENTRATED CHIEFLY ON EGYPTIAN/FRENCH COOPERATION IN THIS ARE. WHEN ASKED IF EGYPT INTENDS TO SHIFT FROM SOVIET ARMS TO WESTERN ARMS WITHIN THE NEXT FIVE YEARS, MUBARK SAID "IT IS IRRATIONAL TO IMAGINE SUCH A PROJECT. WE WANT TO PROTECT OUR NEUTRALITY BY DIVERSIFYING SOURCES OF ARMS AS OTHER COUNTRIES HAVE DONE." MUBARAK REITERATED COMPLAINT THAT SOVIETS HAVE REFUSED TO REPLACE MILITARY EQUIPMENT LOST DURING OCTOBER WAR. HE CONFIRMED THAT MIRAGE PLANES AGREED UPON DURING SADAT'S VISIT TO FRANCE HAVE NOW ARRIVED IN EGYPT.
- 4. ON SALZBURG, MUBARAK COMMENTED THAT, ALTHOUGH QUESTION OF DISENGAGEMENT WAS BROUGHT UP DURING TALKS, SADAT " DID NOT WELCOME THIS IDEA". HE SAID DISENGAGEMENT SHOULD TAKE PLACE ON ALL FRONTS AS PART OF AN OVERALL SETTLEMENT. MUBARAK SAID THAT NO ECONOMIC AGREEMENTS WERE CONCLUDED BETWEEN US AND EGYPT BUT TALKS CONTINUE ON SUBJECT OF AMERICAN AID TO EGYPT. HE NOTED THAT BOTH EGYPT AND THE US HAVE INFORMED SOVIET UNION OF RESULTS OF SALZBURG TALKS.
- 5. WHEN ASKED ABOUT "LITTLE ROCK'S" PARTICIPATION IN SUEZ LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CANAL REOPENING CEREMONIES, MUBARAK SAID THAT IT HAD NOT POLITICAL MEANING, AND ADDED " I WOULD LIKE TO MAKE IT CLEAR THAT THIS DESTROYER DID NOT PARTICIPATE TO PROTECT THE PRESIDENT'S PROCESSION. THE CANAL IS EGYPTIAN, IT RUNS THROUGH EGYPTIAN TERRITORY AND WE ARE CAPABLE OF PROTECTING IT."

6. ON EGYTIAN/LIBYAN RELATIONS, MUBARAK SAID THAT EGYPT AND REMAINDER OF ARAB LEADERS ARE INTERESTED IN ARAB SOLIDARITY,

BUT "LIBYA'S STAND IS VERY STRANGE". END UNCLASSIFIED

7. BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE. COMMENT: SINCE BREAKDOWN OF KISSINGER SHUTTLE EFFORT, SADAT HAS CONSISTENTLY DOWNPLAYED POSSIBILITIES FOR A PARTIAL INTERIM SETTLEMENT, EXPRESSING VIEW THAT NEXT STEP SHOULD BE ONE WHICH MIGHT BE ACHIEVED IN FRAMEWORK OF OVERALL SETTLEMENT TO BE OUTLINED AT GENEVA. MUBARAK'S COMMENTS, IN ESSENCE, TEND TO REFLECT THIS LINE. MOREOVER, EVEN IF PROSPECTS FOR SECOND DISENGAGEMENT WERE TO APPEAR BRIGHTER, EGYPTIANS WOULD WISH TO BE CAREFUL ABOUT EXPRESSING ENTHUSIASM PRIOR TO POSSIBLE ENTRY INTO FURTHER NEGOTIATING SESSION. END LIMITED OFFICIAL USE. EILTS

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